

• In the Claims:

34. (Twice Amended) A computer data storage medium storing a
correspondence table which enables compression of a pronunciation dictionary,
the correspondence table comprising:
a plurality of correspondence sets[,] each [correspondence set] including
a correspondence text entry that is part of a dictionary word;
a correspondence phoneme entry representing the pronunciation of
the correspondence text entry; and
a correspondence symbol for identifying the correspondence set
and for use as a compressed data entry in generating said
compressed pronunciation dictionary.

39. (Once amended) The computer data storage medium of claim 38 wherein
[said] correspondence phoneme entries of said grouping are similar to one
another in pronunciation.

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1 40⁸ (Once amended) A system for storing a pronunciation guide comprising:
2 a correspondence table for storing pronunciation data; and
3 a tuning function for optimizing said correspondence table;
4 wherein said correspondence table includes at least one correspondence
5 set having
6 a correspondence text entry that is part of a dictionary word,
7 a correspondence phonetic entry representing the pronunciation of
8 said correspondence text entry, and
9 a correspondence symbol for identifying the correspondence set;
10 and
11 wherein a matching system uses said correspondence phonetic entry to
12 match said at least one correspondence set in generating a
13 compressed pronunciation dictionary.

(Cancel claim 41)

1 42⁹ (Once amended) The system of claim [41] 40⁸ wherein said tuning function
2 eliminates redundant correspondence sets from said correspondence table.

1 43. (Once amended) The system of claim 42 [further comprising:
2 a) wherein said correspondence symbol [corresponding to said text entry
3 and to said phonetic entry for identifying said correspondence set]
4 is used as a compressed entry in generating said compressed
5 pronunciation dictionary.

1 44. (Once amended) The system of claim 42 wherein said correspondence
2 table includes [said] a respective correspondence set[s] for [all] each practical
3 combination[s] of [said] any correspondence text [entries] entry and [said] any
4 correspondence phonetic [entries] entry for a given language.

1 45. (Once amended) The system of claim 42 further comprising:
2 a grouping of a plurality of said at least one correspondence set[s].

1 47. (Once amended) The system of claim [41] 40 wherein said tuning function
2 eliminates low usage correspondence sets from said correspondence table.

(Cancel claim 48)

1 49. (Once amended) The system of claim [48] 40 wherein said phonetic entry
2 is a phoneme, an allophone, or a syllable.

50. (Once amended) A method of storing a pronunciation guide, comprising the steps of:
inputting a correspondence set into a correspondence table; and
inputting into said correspondence table a correspondence symbol corresponding to said correspondence set; wherein said correspondence symbol is for use as a compressed entry in generating a compressed pronunciation dictionary.

51. (Once amended) The method of claim 50 further comprising the steps of:
optimizing said correspondence table; and
grouping said correspondence set into a plurality of said correspondence sets.

52. (Once amended) The method of claim 51 wherein said step of optimizing [further] comprises the steps of:
eliminating redundant correspondence sets from said correspondence table;
eliminating low-usage correspondence sets from said correspondence table; and
adding productive correspondence sets to said correspondence table.

1. ¹⁹53. (Once amended) The method of claim ¹⁴50 wherein said step of inputting a
2 correspondence set further comprises the steps of:
3 inputting a correspondence text entry that is part of a dictionary word
4 into said correspondence table; and
5 inputting a phonetic entry corresponding to said correspondence text
6 entry into said correspondence table.

(Add the following claims:)

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1. ²⁶54. The method of claim ¹⁹53 further comprising the step of using said phonetic
2 entry to generate said compressed pronunciation dictionary.

1. ¹55. The method of claim ¹54 wherein a matching system uses said
2 correspondence phoneme entry to match said correspondence sets in generating
3 said compressed pronunciation dictionary.